[B.L.] 49

Orders conceiued by the Lords of his Maiesties

Priuie Counsell, and by his Highnesse speciall direction, commanded to be put in execution for the restraint of killing, and eating of Flesh this next Lent, and to be executed aswell by the Lord Maior within the Citie and Suburbs of London, and by the Officers of the Liberties and exempt places in and about the same, as by order to be prescribed by the Lords Lieutenants of all the Counties of the Realme, to the Iustices of Peace, Lords of Liberties, and Officers of Corporate townes.

17. February, in the first yeere of his Maiesties Reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the seuen and thirtieth.

FIrst, his Maiesties pleasure is, vpon his vnderstanding of the great disorders heretofore, and especially the last Lent, committed in killing and eating flesh in the time of Lent, especially in the City of London, and the liberties thereto adioyning, that the Statute made in the fift yeere of the Raigne of the late Queene Elizabeth, for the restraint thereof, be put in due execution by the way of Inquisition, and charge of Juries, or by any other good meanes, both within the City and all other places requisite within the Realme, and this to be executed with more diligence then heretofore it hath bene.

2 And for the better knowledge of the trueth of these disorders, and redresse of the inconueniences, the said Juries shall call before them, and send for any of the Seruants of any Inholders, Victuallers, Tauerners, and Keepers of Ordinary Tables, and such other that vtter Victuals, to examine them vpon their corporall othes, What flesh is, or hath bene during the Lent season, dressed, killed, vttered or eaten in their houses, which if they shall refuse to doe, then they shall make known the same to the Alderman or his Deputie of that Ward, who shall commit to prison the said seruants, so refusing vpon their othes to declare the trueth.

3 And because a great part of the disorder groweth by the Butchers of the Citie of London, and also of the Countrey, that kill secretly and bring Flesh to the Citie: It is ordered that there shalbe onely fiue Butchers licensed by the Lord Maior within the Citie of London, and for the liberties thereof, viz. three in Eastcheape, and three in S. Nicholas Shambles, who shalbe of the poorer sort, and shall not pay any thing for their licenses, nor ioyne with them any partners.

4 That euery of the said Butchers so to be licensed within the Citie, bee limited not to kill weekely aboue the number of twentie sheepe, twentie calues, and twentie lambes, and to vtter and sell the same in their open shops in such sort, as in open time they are accustomed to doe, and at such rates and prizes as shall be set downe by order of the Lord Maior of London for that Citie and the Liberties thereof. And besides euery one of them shall keepe a perfect booke, What Flesh they kill euery day, and to what persons they sell and vtter the same, and be bound in a sufficient Bond with good Sureties to his Maiesties vse, to obserue these Orders in euery respect.

5 That there be licensed only to kil and vtter flesh in the Suburbs of the said Citie, as in the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey neere vnto London, onely ten Butchers to be licensed by the Justices within the seuerall limits, whereof two to be of the Quorum, that is, two without Temple Barre in the parish of S. Clement Danes, two without Smithfield Barres in the parish of S. Pulchers, or Clarkenwell, or one of them, one in Whitecrosse streete, one in Norton Folgate, one in White Chappell, one in S. Katherines, two in Southwarke, and for the Citie of Westminster and the Liberties therof two Butchers to be licensed by the chiefe Officer of that Liberty. And those to be as is before expressed for the said Citie and the Liberties, of the poorer sort inhabiting in those places, and to be licensed without any money or other consideration to be giuen for the same, and to be bound in the like Bond and Conditions, and to obserue the like Orders in euery respect as those that are to be appointed for London, and the said Clerke of the Market, Officer and Justice, there to see them, and to set the prizes of the Victuals to be vttered in those parts.

6 That no person be permitted to kill or sell any flesh but to those that are licensed, nor in any other place as before is specified, vpon paine to forfeit the flesh to be giuen to the poore in the prisons, and to suffer imprisonment.

7 That the Constables, Churchwardens and other publique Officers be authorised in London, and the liberties thereof, by the L. Maior, and by the Justices in the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey, and the forenamed Officers in Westminster, to make search, and to see that the licensed Butchers, nor any other doe kill or vtter any Flesh, nor doe any thing contrary to the Orders and his Maiesties Proclamation in that behalfe, and if they finde any to offend therein, that they be bound and ordered to present the same to the Justices of the Peace, and the Officers of Westminster, who are to see the offenders duely punished and proceeded withall according to the Law and their discretions.

8 Item, that euery Butcher licensed to kill for any priuate persons, doe not sell to any other.

9 Item, that no Grasier or Drouer be suffred to passe thorow, or out of any Shire with any droues of Sheepe or Lambes to London to sell, till against the Market dayes before Easter.

10 Item, that none be licensed to eat flesh, but according to the Statute made An. 27. Eliz. Reg. ca. 11.

11 Item, that the Butchers keepe a perfect booke, What Flesh they kill euery day, and to what persons they sell the same.

12 That the Lord Maior himselfe shall grant no Warrant for buying of Flesh in Lent, but to such as shall haue or shew to him Licence in Writing according to the Lawes of the Realme, to eate Flesh, and the same Licence to be viewed and registred, by some two meete persons to be appointed for this purpose by the Lord Maior, and Bookes to be kept thereof, to be shewed further when the same shalbe required, vnlesse it be to Embassadours and Agents of forraine Princes, to whom notwithstanding no further quantitie shall be allowed, then ratably for their owne Household, and that such Embassadours and Agents shall giue to the Lord Maior a Certificate weekely What they shall require to be for their owne Tables.

13 That the Lord Maior shall now presently before Lent, or at the beginning thereof, cause all Inne-holders, Table keepers, Victualers, Alehouse-keepers, and Tauernors within the City and Liberties thereof, to appeare before him, or such persons as he shall appoint meete for that purpose, and shall take Bonds with Suerties of euery of them, in good summes of money, viz. one hundred pound the Principall, and the Suerties thirty pound a piece to his Maiesties vse, not to dresse any Flesh in their houses this Lent time for any respect, nor suffer it to be eaten, except it be for some such person that lieth in their house, and that also hath Licence through sickneesse, or other necessary cause to eate flesh. Bonds shall be taken also of the Poulters, not to vtter any Poultry Ware, but to such as shall be likewise licensed to eate Flesh, and that such as will not giue such Bonds, that they be secluded from all vtterance of Victuall during the Lent season, excepting those Poulters that doe ordinarily serue his Maiesties household, of whom like Bonds shall bee taken by his Maiesties Officers of the Greenecloth. The like Bonds with Suerties shalbe taken of the like persons, vpon like penalties, by the chiefe Officer of Westminster and the Liberties thereof.

14 And for the Butchers and others that come with Victuals of Flesh out of the Countrey to the City, the L. Maior shall cause certaine persons to watch at the Gates, and other like places in the Suburbs where flesh may be brought in, to view and search, and to intercept the same. The Carriers of the said victuals of Flesh, if any shalbe taken, to be guided to the persons houses that haue Licence, with regard therein not to be abused, and this Watch to be continued dayly during the whole time of Lent, and if any of these Watchmen be found negligent and corrupt in his charge, then he to be committed to prison, there to continue during the Whole Lent. And in case the same shalbe found to be brought to any person not warranted or licensed to eate it as is aforesaid, then the same to be forfaited and solde at the discretion of the L. Maior for the vse of the poore, in the Hospitals and Prisons in the City, and the bringers to be imprisoned.

15 And for that it is to be doubted that the Fishmongers vpon the obseruation of the said Orders, will take occasion thereby to inhanse the prizes as Well of Fresh, as of Sea fish, it is thought meet that the Lord Maior shall take order With the said Fishmongers, that as well the Salt as Fresh fish, shall be vttered at reasonable prizes.

16 And it is ordered that no Butchers shall kill any Beeues, but such as shall be especially licenced thereunto Without any fraud, for the furnishing of such Ships as shall be lawfully imployed by Sea, either in the Way of Traffique, or otherWise.

17 Further also, that a true Certificate be Weekely made by the Lord Maior, and by him sent to the Lords and others of his Maiesties Priuie Counsell, euery Saturday Within the Lent time, of the iust number of Muttons, Veales and Lambes, Which are weekely killed Within the City and Liberties thereof, that their Honors may know Whether the proportion allowed and set downe to be Weekly killed by such Butchers as are licenced to kil Flesh, be duly obserued. The like Certificate is to be made by the head Officers, or such other as are appointed to keepe order in the out places. The like Certificate is to be made and deliuered in, of all Inneholders, Table keepers, Victuallers, Alehouse keepers and Tauerners, Who shall be found to dresse, eate, or sell Flesh Within their houses, contrary to the Orders before specified.

18 And as these Orders are expresly deuised to be executed in the City of London and places neere to the same, so his Maiesties pleasure and commandement is, that the execution of these, or like Orders be performed by the commandement of his Maiesties Lieutenants, to be sent to the Justices of Peace in all Shires Within their Rule, and to all other Officers in Townes corporate, or in any Liberties, With like order for Bonds to be taken to his Maiesties vse.

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